



Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

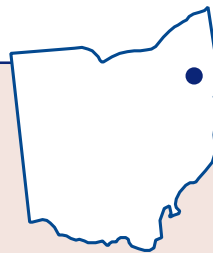
Mahoning County, OH

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

Mahoning County was selected to receive an assessment grant. The Youngstown-Warren metropolitan area was once the third largest steel-producing community in the nation. The mills dotted the banks of the Mahoning River, employing approximately 65,000 people before their demise in the late 1970s. Today, basic steel industries employ about 4,000 people in the region. The county still has not recovered from this loss of jobs. Unemployment in Mahoning County is 17 percent, the poverty rate is 26 percent, and brownfields are concentrated in the county's core cities. Economic development is at a standstill until the identified brownfields in these cities are assessed, remediated, and prepared for redevelopment. The Mahoning River Corridor of Opportunity (MRCO) Planning Committee,



Assessment Grant

New
2003

\$170,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the Mahoning County for a brownfields assessment grant. Grant funds will be used to perform Phase II assessments at sites within a 120-acre, former steel and industrial complex bordering the Mahoning River. Grant funds also will be used to conduct redevelopment planning activities. The County will provide the funds needed to develop outreach materials and involve the community in redevelopment decisions.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team
312-886-7576
<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: Mahoning County, OH
330-740-8799

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, Mahoning County has not received brownfields grant funding.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

a consortium of 31 public and private entities, has been organized to facilitate brownfields redevelopment in the Mahoning River valley.